

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-25 (canceled).

26 (currently amended). A method of selectively connecting a portable electronic control and/or monitoring unit movable by a user to at least one machine or machine component selectable by the user ~~in~~ from a plurality of machines or machine components for control and/or ,monitoring by the user, ~~for example robots~~, wherein a clear link or log-on connection between the control and/or monitoring unit and a point on the selected machine or machine component is set up by means of interfaces for a selected wireless direction-finder of the point or by means of transmitters and/or receivers tuned to the transmission range or reception range, having a limited, localised operating range and, once the connection has been acknowledged and established, a planned control and/or monitoring of the selected machine or the machine component is managed via another, standard data transmission means, ~~for example a hard-wired network and/or a wireless link between the control and/or monitoring unit and the selected machine or selected machine component~~, the connection being managed by the

user ~~simply~~ by actively accepting/acknowledging the potential connection by means of an operating element on the control and/or monitoring unit.

27 (previously added). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that clear signaling at least on the respective machine and/or on the control and/or monitoring unit indicates when a link or connection has been established.

28 (currently amended). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that an active connection or log-on of a control and/or monitoring unit to one or more machines or machine components ~~can not be terminated except by a deliberate or conscious~~ takes place upon log-on ~~off~~ by the user, who must operate at least one control element of an input device of the control and/or monitoring unit or a control device of the machine or the machine component.

29 (currently amended). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that the link or log-on connection is cyclically checked against a valid log-on process and control and/or monitoring of the machine is terminated either automatically or by the user, ~~who simply quits~~ by selecting the a log-off option, if the selected link or log-on connection goes down or is interrupted.

30. (Currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 26, characterized in that, during the log-on procedure of the control and/or monitoring unit, an identification number or code is transmitted and acknowledgment is returned, via the standard data transmission means ~~or via the same wireless transmission channel~~, by the distant point or machine receiving this code, which also checks to ensure that the control and/or monitoring unit transmitting the code is valid.

Claims 31-33 (canceled).

34 (previously added). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterised in that the functional and operating range of the transmitters and/or receivers lies within a close immediate vicinity around the machines and/or around the control and/or monitoring unit.

Claim 35-50 (canceled).

51 (new). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterised in that the standard transmission means is a hard-wired network.

52 (new). Method as claimed in claim 26, characterised in that the standard transmission means is a wireless link between the control and/or monitoring unit and the selected machine or

machine component.

53 (re-presented former claim 36 and currently amended).
A portable electronic control and/or monitoring unit movable by a user, comprising an input device with several operating elements ~~and/or an optical display~~ and having at least one first interface to at least one control unit for one or more machines or machine components, ~~for example robots, another~~ second interface for a wireless connection system to a co-operating point in or on the machine or machine component to be controlled and/or monitored for enabling the user to establish a clear connection or link ~~selected by the user~~ between the control and/or monitoring unit and the one or more machines or machine components selected by the user from a plurality of machines or machine components to be controlled and/or monitored, and an operating element on the input device for enabling the user to selectively establish and/or terminate ~~the~~ an operative connection via the at least one first interface.

54 (re-presented former claim 37 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53, characterized in that the interface has a transmitter with a directional transmission characteristic.

55 (re-presented former claim 38 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the interface has a transmitter with a
locally restricted transmission characteristic or a
transmission characteristic that is restricted to the area in
the immediate vicinity.

56 (re-presented former claim 39 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the distant point comprises a receiver
responding to the transmitter.

57 (re-presented former claim 40 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the distant point comprises a receiver
with a defined, limited reception sensitivity.

58 (re-presented former claim 41 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the interface of the control and/or
monitoring unit comprises a receiver for signals transmitted by
the transmitter in the vicinity of a machine.

59 (re-presented former claim 42 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,

characterised in that the connection link between the transmitter and the receiving is one-way.

60 (re-presented former claim 43 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the interface is provided as an optical transmitter for infrared signals or laser light.

61 (re-presented former claim 44 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the interface is provided as a transmitter for electromagnetic waves.

62 (re-presented former claim 45 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the co-operating transmitter and receiver are provided as a transponder system.

63 (re-presented former claim 46 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,
characterised in that the interface is provided as an acoustic transmitter, for example for ultrasonic signals.

64 (re-presented former claim 47 and currently amended).
Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53,

characterised in that the interface is provided with in the form of contact pins and/or a contact rod or by means of an electrical contact surface with a complementary counter-contract on the machine to be controlled and/or monitored.

65 (re-presented former claim 49 and currently amended). Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53, characterised in that a distance-measuring device and/or by a position sensor is provided for detecting the distance of the control and/or monitoring unit relative to a machine or a machine component.

66 (re-presented former claim 50 and currently amended). Control and/or monitoring unit as claimed in claim ~~36~~ 53, characterised in that the interface is provided as a transmitter and/or receiver for signals to and/or from a co-operating distant point or transmitter and/or receiver, which is disposed in the immediate vicinity of the machines to be controlled and/or monitored.